

E 4412(1) MARGATE

Kent

BOROUGH OF MARGATE.



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1923,

ON THE

Health of Margate

Vital Statistics and Sanitary Work.

By the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

ROWAN McCOMBE.

TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

AND THE

Meteorological Report.

Margate:

Printed by W. J. Parrett, Ltd.,
25, Cecil Square.
1924.

58632



To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Margate.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1923.

The report is again somewhat condensed and abbreviated this year in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health to save expense in printing.

I very much regret the resignation of your Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. E. Ridsdale, at the end of the year. We have worked very amicably together for ten years, and it will be very difficult to find his equal or anyone so competent in the discharge of his duties.

I gratefully acknowledge the kind assistance accorded me at all times by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, also by my professional colleagues in the Town, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Assistant Sanitary Inspectors, Health Visitor, and Clerk, without which it would be impossible to carry out my duties satisfactorily.

I beg to remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROWAN McCOMBE,

Medical Officer of Health.

March, 1924.

General Statistics.

Area (acres), 2,961.

Population (1923), 28,080.

Number of inhabited houses (1921), 5,159.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921), 5,888.

Rateable value, £264,682.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £1,095.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Births: Legitimate—total, 461; male, 253; female, 208.

Illegitimate—total, 26; male, 14; female, 12.

Deaths: Total, 297; male, 134; female, 163.

Birth Rate (R.G.), 17.3 per 1,000.

Death Rate (R.G.), 10.6 per 1,000.

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth—
from Sepsis, 2; from other causes, 1.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births—
Legitimate, 41.2; Illegitimate, 76.9; total, 43.1.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age), 2.

**Deaths of "Residents" in Margate, whether occurring in
or beyond the District.**
CIVILIANS ONLY.

Causes of Death.							Males	Females
1	Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2	Small-Pox	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
5	Whooping Cough	..	...	...	...	...	—	—
6	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
7	Influenza	...	...	—	...	...	1	3
8	Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9	Meningococcal meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
10	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	17	13
11	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	6	2
12	Cancer, malignant disease...	...	...	...	...	...	13	31
13	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
14	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
15	Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	4	13
16	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	18	29
17	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...	...	6	2
18	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	2	6
19	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	8	5
20	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
21	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
22	Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
23	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
24	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
25	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
26	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
27	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
28	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	10	4
29	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
30	Other deaths from Violence	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
31	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	29	33
32	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
All Causes							134	163
Special Causes (included above)								
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year							Total	
							Illegitimate	
Total Births							13	8
							1	1
Legitimate							253	208
Illegitimate							14	12
Population							28,080	

3.—Notifiable Diseases during 1923.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified. *	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.*
Diphtheria	26	20	1
Scarlet Fever	93	84	1
Enteric (including para-typhoid)	3	1	1
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	9	—	13
Dysentery	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—
† Tuberculosis :—			
(a) Pulmonary	Males ...	31	—
	Females	40	—
	Total ...	71	—
(b) Non-Pulmonary	Males ..	25	—
	Females	17	—
	Total ...	42	—

* For analysis under age groups see separate tables.

† Of the total 37 deaths from Tuberculosis, 15 cases were not notified.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	CASES.				Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated.		At Home.	In Hospital			
Nil	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

Deaths from Infectious Diseases occurring during 1923.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1923 in the Margate District.

No. of Cases Notified.												
	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 20	15 and under 35	20 and under 45	35 and under 65	45 and under 65	65 and over
Diphtheria	—	—	1	1	6	9	7	—	2	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	4	5	31	31	9	7	1	—	—
Enteric (including para-typhoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	4	1	2	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Tuberculosis—												
(a) Pulmonary	Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	2
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	5	5
	Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	7	7
(b) Non-Pulmonary	Males	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	—
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	5	—
	Total	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	13	14	—

TABLE X.—Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1923.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a Population estimated to the middle of 1923, while those for the towns have been calculated on Populations estimated to the middle of 1922. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH-RATE Per 1,000 Total Population.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.		
		All Causes.	Measles.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Causes of death certi- fied by Medical Registrars.	
England and Wales ...	19.7	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.14	0.03	0.10	0.07	0.22	0.44	7.7	69	6.9
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, in- cluding London. ...	20.4	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.03	0.12	0.09	0.22	0.40	9.9	72	7.2
157 Smaller Towns (1921) Adjusted Populations 20,000 - 50,000)	19.8	10.6	0.01	—	0.19	0.02	0.10	0.06	0.21	0.38	6.4	69	6.1
London	20.2	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.09	0.13	0.17	0.45	10.2	60	90.8
Margate	17.3	10.6	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.14	0.32	4.1	47	3.4

General Information.

The Borough of Margate extends over an area of 2,961 acres, which includes 468 acres of foreshore. Situated at the N.E. corner of Kent, it is exposed to sea breezes from all quarters except the West. The estimated population for the purposes of calculating the Birth Rate and Death Rate, etc., is 28,080. In my opinion, this estimate is too low, and it should also be noted that the population during the height of the season exceeds 100,000. The number of inhabited houses in 1921 according to the Census figures was 5,159, and the number of families or separate occupiers 5,888. The rateable value is £264,682, and the sum represented by a penny rate being £1,095.

Birth Rate. The number of Births registered during the year was 267 males and 220 females, total 487, which is equivalent to a Birth Rate of 17.3 per 1,000.

Death Rate. The number of deaths registered during the same period was 134 males and 163 females, total 297, which is equivalent to a Death Rate of 10.6 per 1,000.

Infantile Mortality. The number of Infants who died under one year was 13 males and 8 females, total 21, which is equivalent to an Infantile Death Rate of 43.1 per 1,000 births. This is the lowest on record for Margate.

Public Library. Perhaps the most notable event during the year was the opening of the Public Library. This at first sight may not seem an item for comments on Public Health, but it is a well-established fact that the education given at the different Clinics all over the country has gone a long way in reducing our infantile death rate and to help to improve the health of the children generally. It is reasonable therefore to expect that the Free Library will offer greater facilities to the people for still further improving their minds. Besides, it offers a healthy recreation to everyone who wishes to take advantage of it and who hitherto were not able to afford it.

Baths. Another greatly needed improvement which has received much time and thought from the Health Committee is the erection of Public Baths. It is well known that in the older parts of the town not only the cottages but many of the better class houses have no bath-room, and what is needed is facilities for these people to obtain a good bath at least once a week, and at a price which they are able to afford. I have no doubt that this will be an established fact in the very near future.

It is not considered necessary to erect electrical or medicated baths, as these can already be obtained at different Institutions in the town, and appear to meet the needs of the people.

The Clifton Baths, owned by a private firm, have recently been thoroughly renovated, and offer every facility for the use of hot sea-water and ordinary baths. A swimming bath is also provided.

Housing. In common with other towns, we are still faced with a deplorable shortage of houses, and many families are not only living in one room for each family, but there are a great many houses occupied which are totally unfit for human habitation. It is useless to put Closing Orders on these houses, as the tenants have nowhere better to go. We are thus greatly handicapped in our endeavours to raise the standard of health and cleanliness among the people. The Housing Committee are quite aware of these facts, and have done everything in their power to overcome them. In 1921 84 new houses were built as part of the new Municipal Housing Scheme; in 1922, 52 houses; and last year a further 22, but we require at least 300 immediately.

Drainage. Owing to the growth of the town it became necessary to devise means for dealing with the increased volume of sewage and storm water. The Borough Engineer, Mr. Ernest A. Borg, was instructed to prepare a scheme, which met with the approval of the Ministry of Health. The scheme included deep level sewers, large main sewers, pumping stations, pumping engines and storm overflow drains.

The following portions of the scheme have been carried out:—

1. Sewage Screening and Pumping Station at Foreness Point. The pumps are designed to deliver one-and-a-half million gallons of sewage in two-and-a-half hours.

The discharge of this quantity takes place when the tide is racing out to the North Sea, and it can be truthfully stated that the plant is up-to-date, and that

Margate is most favourably provided by nature for the position of the Outfall; in fact, it is impossible for a single particle of sewage to take other than a course towards the North Sea.

2. Large Egg-shaped Sewer from Newgate Gapway to the foot of Wilderness Hill. The dimensions of this sewer being 60 inches by 40 inches internal.
3. Deep Level Connecting Sewer from the foot of Trinity Hill, under Cecil Square, High Street, Eaton Road and Tivoli Road. This sewer deals with the whole of the low level sewage, and enabled the Corporation to abolish four pumping stations. A large annual saving in cost has been effected.
4. New Sewage Pumping Station and Sewage Pumps at King Street. All sewage and storm water now pumped at one station as against five previously.
5. No. 2, Large Storm Over-flow Drains to deep sea.

It is hoped that the scheme will have been entirely carried out before the end of this year.

Tuberculosis. The number of cases notified during the year is considerably larger than usual, viz.: 71 Pulmonary (Consumption) and 42 non-pulmonary; total 113. In addition there were 15 cases not notified.

The total number of deaths from Consumption was 30, and from other tubercular diseases 8.

**Scarlet Fever
and
Diphtheria.** I am glad to say the numbers of these cases have become again what one might call normal, and had it not been for several small outbreaks in the different Institutions in the Town we should probably have had the lowest on record to deal with.

Every effort is made to get the patients into Hospital as quickly as possible, and with the Motor Ambulance now available this is accomplished without any delay.

Contacts are excluded from School and the premises are disinfected in every case. In the case of Diphtheria, anti-toxin is administered to all contacts where it is considered necessary. This is provided free of cost in necessitous cases and anti-toxin is administered to every patient immediately upon entering the Hospital.

Scarlet Fever, 93 cases; Diphtheria, 26 cases.

Enteric Fever. We had only three cases of Enteric Fever and these all occurred in an Institution.

The source of the infection was not definitely ascertained, except that probably one patient was admitted when suffering from the disease in a mild form.

Chicken Pox. On account of the number of cases of Small-Pox in the country it was decided as a precautionary measure to make Chicken

Pox notifiable in July for a period of eighteen months. Eighteen (18) cases were notified during the year and all turned out happily to be of a mild character and did not excite any suspicion.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

Nursing. As regards general Nursing, this is carried out by a voluntary Association, which provides two trained Nurses. These Nurses

are available for any patient who is recommended by the doctor in attendance. No payment is made to the Association by the Local Authority.

Midwives. There are four Midwives practising in the Town, two Municipal and two in private practice. The salaries of the Municipal

Midwives are paid by the Town Council and the fees received from their patients are paid back into the Borough Fund. Taking it all the year round the Midwives practically earn their salaries. I would like it, therefore, to be specially known that they are very little, if any, cost to the ratepayers. The Municipal Midwives occupy their spare time in ante-natal visiting. This is particularly necessary in first confinements, and where premature or still-births have been known to occur. I hope it may have the effect of reducing the number of premature births, which is the chief factor in infantile mortality.

Clinics. There are two Clinics in the Town provided by the Local Authority, viz.:—The School Clinic in Victoria Road, for the treatment

of Minor Ailments in children attending the Elementary Schools, Dental Treatment, Eyesight Testing, and for operations for enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids: and the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, situated in St. Peter's Footpath, consisting of a Lecture Room, Consulting Room, Kitchen, Weighing Room and Nursery.

The following are particulars of work done at the latter Centre during the year:—

Total attendance of Mothers	...	...	...	3728
Total attendances of Babies	...	...	...	3570

Average attendances of Mothers	...	...	...	78
Average attendances of Babies	...	...	...	74
No. of Mothers on the Books	...	...	...	424
No. of visits to Babies and Children under 5 years of age by the Health Visitor	...	...	...	3441
Average Weekly Consultations by the Medical Officer of Health	...	...	...	13
No. of Babies weighed	...	...	...	1649

Other Clinics.

There is also a Venereal Clinic and Tuberculosis Dispensary situated in St. Peter's Road, provided by the County Council.

Hospitals.

With the exception of the Fever Hospital, there are no Hospitals in the Town provided or subsidised by the Local Authority.

The County Council, however, send patients who are suffering from Surgical Tuberculosis, and are recommended by their Tuberculosis Officers, to the Victoria Home, and the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital. The Royal Sea Bathing Hospital has accommodation for 266 patients, and the Victoria Home for 54. Both Hospitals are situated in Canterbury Road.

The Fever Hospital is situated at Haine, about two miles from Margate, and is provided conjointly by the Margate, Ramsgate, Broadstairs, and Isle of Thanet (Rural) Authorities. There is now accommodation for about 93 patients. During the year a new cubicle block, containing eight rooms, was completed and opened in October.

A Small-Pox Hospital is situated on a separate site adjoining the above, and is capable of accommodating 16 patients.

The Margate Cottage Hospital, situated in Victoria Road, is entirely supported by voluntary contributions, and has accommodation for 30 patients. The Hospital is used principally for surgical and accident cases. Children are also admitted, and complicated cases of midwifery.

There is no Institution in the town for unmarried mothers, but patients requiring a temporary home can sometimes be accommodated at Ramsgate.

Ambulance Facilities. The Joint Hospital Board provides a Motor Ambulance for the conveyance of infectious cases to the Isolation Hospital. For non-infectious and accident cases, a Motor Ambulance is provided by the Margate Ambulance Corps, a voluntary body which does most useful and creditable work for the town.

Laboratory Work.

Bacteriological Examinations are carried out at the County Laboratory, Maidstone.

This arrangement is quite satisfactory, and full advantage appears to be taken of it by the Medical Practitioners in the Town.

LIST OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS CARRIED
OUT AT THE COUNTY LABORATORY, MAIDSTONE,
FOR MARGATE DURING 1923.

NATURE OF EXAMINATION.	RESULTS.	
	POSITIVE.	NEGATIVE.
Examination of Diphtheria Swabs ...	13	127
Widal reaction in cases of suspected Typhoid Fever	4	8
Sputum examination for Tubercle Bacilli	12	56
Examination of hairs for "Ringworm" parasite	5	2
Totals	34	193

Water. Four samples of Water were sent for Bacteriological Examination during the year, and it is very satisfactory to report that it still maintains its high reputation for quantity and quality as shown by the following reports:—

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF THE MARGATE WATER SUPPLY TAKEN FROM THE TAP AT 12, GROSVENOR PLACE, MARGATE, ON 18TH JULY, 1923.

Physical:—

Appearance in Two-foot Tube ...	... ...	Clear and bright.
Suspended matter ...	... ...	Nil.
Deposit ...	... ...	Nil.
Re-action ...	... ...	Neutral.
Temperature	... ...	19°C.

Bacteriological:—

I. Quantitative Examination of Micro-Organisms:—

A cubic centimetre of the water contained, on an average, 3 bacteria which were capable of growth on gelatin plates, within 72 hours' incubation at a temperature of 22°C. Two cubic centimetres of the water, added to agar plates and incubated for 24 hours at a temperature of 37°C. yielded a growth of only a single organism.

II. Qualitative Examination of Micro-Organisms:—

The usual examination of 60 cubic centimetres of the water for the detection of organisms of the Colon Group, or other bacteria, whose presence would suggest recent surface pollution gave completely negative results.

The only organism appearing on the gelatin and agar plates was a saprophytic coccus.

Remarks:—

The results of this examination, as of the other examinations made during the current year, are excellent. The supply is of the highest possible purity, and could not be improved.

(Signed) ALEX. G. R. FOULERTON,

F.R.C.S., D.P.H., F.C.S.

Dated 25th July, 1923.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER TAKEN ON 20TH JULY,
1923, AT TAP OFF MAIN, 12, GROSVENOR PLACE,
MARGATE.

N.B.—All numerical results expressed in grains per gallon.

Appearance	...	...	...	...	...	Clear.
Colour	...	...	...	...	...	Green-Blue.
Smell	...	...	...	...	...	Normal.
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	1.61.
Phospheric Acid in Phosphates	...	...	...	...	...	None.
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	0.45.
Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	None.
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.0008.
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes	...	...	...	...	...	Trace only.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	...	...	...	...	...	0.022.
Hardness before Boiling (Total)	...	...	...	...	...	18.7.
Hardness after Boiling (Permanent)	...	...	...	...	...	3.9.
Total Solid matter	...	...	...	...	...	22.89.
Microscopical Examination of Deposit	...	...	...	...	...	Slight and Unimportant.
Chlorine as "Salt"	...	...	...	...	...	2.65.

Remarks:—

The above results are very satisfactory throughout and indicate water organically pure and free from sewage percolation. The Microscopical Examination is also satisfactory.

(Signed) ERNEST M. HAWKINS,
Public Analyst, Borough of Margate.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK & CREAM) REGULATIONS,
1912 & 1917.

Report for Year ended 31st December, 1923.

1. Milk, and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

	(a) Number of Samples examined for the presence of Preser- vative.	(b) Number in which a Preservative was reported to be Present, and Per- centage of Preserva- tive found in each sample.
Milk 	49	0
Cream 	0	0

2. Cream sold as Preserved Cream.

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct:—

(i)	Correct statements made	...	...	5
(ii)	Statements incorrect	...	...	1
	Total	...	...	6

(iii) Percentage of preservatives found in each sample:—0.35 per cent., 0.39 per cent., 0.46 per cent., 0.32 per cent., 0.14 per cent., 0.34 per cent.

Percentage stated on Statutory label:—0.4 per cent. in each case.

(b) Determination made of milk fat in Cream sold as Preserved Cream:—

(i)	Above 35 per cent.	...	...	...	6
(ii)	Below 35 per cent.	...	...	...	0
	Total	...	...	...	6

(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of Preserved Cream in Article V. (1) and the proviso in Article V. (2) of the Regulations have not been observed.

Nil.

(d) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with, and action taken.

Sample containing 0.06 per cent. Boric Acid in excess of the amount declared on the label:—Letter of warning sent by the Town Clerk 19/9/23.

3. Thickening Substances:—Any evidence of their addition to Cream or to Preserved Cream.

Nil.

4. Other observations:—

Nil.

LIST OF BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN THE BOROUGH OF MARGATE.

Common Lodging Houses (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 80).

Houses Let in Lodgings (H. and T.P. Act, 1919, s. 26 and P.H. Act, 1875, s. 90).

Cleansing, &c., and Removal of Refuse (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 44).

Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c. (H.W.C. Act, 1885, s. 9 [2]).
 Public Mortuaries (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 141).
 Slaughter Houses (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 169).
 Prevention of Nuisances arising from snow, filth, rubbish and
 the keeping of animals (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 44).
 New Streets and Buildings (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 157, and P.H.A.A.
 Act, 1890, s. 23).
 Removal of Offensive Matters and House Refuse (P.H.A.A. Act,
 1890, s. 26).
 Public Conveniences (P.H.A.A. Act, 1890, s. 20).
 Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885.

THE FOLLOWING ACTS HAVE BEEN ADOPTED IN THE BOROUGH.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.
 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.
 Notification of Births Act, 1907.
 The Public Libraries Acts.

The Staff of the Health Department consists of the Medical Officer of Health, who is also School Medical Officer, Rowan McCombe, F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H., and the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Ernest Ridsdale, A.R.S.I., both whole-time appointments, half of whose salary is paid by the Ministry of Health; J. Rattray, C.R.S.I., Assistant Sanitary Inspector; Miss O'Brien, C.R.S.I., Assistant Sanitary Inspectress; Miss Green, Health Visitor, C.M.B. certificate; and L. Hutchinson, Clerk.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
(b) As part of a municipal housing scheme	...						22

1.—*Unfit Dwelling Houses.*

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	3217
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	...	99
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	2

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ... ... ...	81
<i>2.—Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.</i>		
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	... ... ...	52
<i>3.—Action under Statutory Powers.</i>		
A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ...	7
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:—		
(a) by owners	... ... ... ...	6
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners		—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close		—
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ... ... ...	30
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:—		
(a) by owners	... ... ... ...	34
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners		—
C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.		
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	... ...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ...	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	... ...	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... ...	8
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ...	5

TABLE I.**Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.**

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries) ...	135	1	—
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries) ...	591	10	—
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	65	2	—
Total	791	13	—

TABLE II.**Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.**

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>		
Want of cleanliness	13	13
Want of ventilation	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—
Other Nuisances	13	13
Sanitary accommodation—		
Insufficient	1	1
Unsuitable or defective	3	3
Not separate for sexes	1	1
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts:</i>		
Illegal occupation of underground bake-houses	—	—
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses	4	4
Other offences	—	—
Total	36	35

TABLE III.**Homework.**

Outworker's Lists. Section 107.

Lists received from Employers.

Nature of Work.	Sent twice in the year.			Sent once in the year.		
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.	
		Contractors	Workmen		Contractors	Workmen
Making Wearing Apparel	14	3	14	1	1	—
Total	14	3	14	1	1	—

TABLE IV.
Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.					Number.
Builders ...	...	...	...	...	17
Bakers ...	...	...	...	...	10
Blacksmiths ...	...	...	...	...	8
Boatbuilders ...	...	...	...	...	1
Blindmakers ...	...	...	...	...	1
Bootmakers ...	...	...	...	...	24
Beer Bottlers ...	...	...	...	...	1
Carpenters ...	...	...	...	...	3
Cycle Works ...	...	...	...	...	4
Coach Builders ...	...	...	...	...	1
Cabinet Makers ...	...	...	...	...	6
Chocolate Makers ...	...	...	...	...	4
Dressmakers ...	...	...	...	...	15
Watchmakers ...	...	...	...	...	8
Knitting ...	...	...	...	...	2
Timber Merchant ...	...	...	...	...	1
Optician ...	...	...	...	...	1
French Polishers ...	...	...	...	...	1
Ironmongers ...	...	...	...	...	3
Laundries ...	...	...	...	...	9
Musical Instrument Repairers ...	...	...	...	...	2
Milliners ...	...	...	...	...	12
Motor Engineers and Garages ...	...	...	...	...	22
Picture Framers ...	...	...	...	...	2
Photographers ...	...	...	...	...	5
Plumbers and Decorators ...	...	...	...	...	9
Stone Masons ...	...	...	...	...	1
Signwriter ...	...	...	...	...	1
Sausage Maker ...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailors ...	...	...	...	...	19
Upholsterers ...	...	...	...	...	3
Bookbinders ...	...	...	...	...	1
Electrical Engineers ...	...	...	...	...	1
Restaurants ...	...	...	...	...	40
Total number of Workshops on Register.					239

TABLE V.
Other Matters.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:—	
Failure to affix abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act	4
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector of Factories as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts:—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	2
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	—
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses :—	
In use at the end of the year	12

FORM "A"

Amount of Shipping entering the Port Sanitary District during the year 1923.

	No.	Tonnage.	No. Inspected.		No. Reported to be defective.	No. of Orders issued.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector		
Foreign—						
*Steamers	11	1308	—	1	—	—
Sailing	14	1221	1	1	—	—
Fishing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign ...	5	2529	1	2	—	—
Coastwise—						
*Steamers	73	9753	2	14	—	—
Sailing	158	8664	2	18	—	—
Fishing	6	60	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise ...	237	18477	4	32	—	—
Total Foreign and Coastwise ...	262	21006	5	34	—	—

* Including Motor Vessels.

None of the Ships inspected were found to be affected with Rats. Public notices were exhibited at the Harbour on the methods to be adopted for the destruction of Rats.

Meteorological Report, 1923.

I beg to submit the Meteorological Report for the Borough for 1923.

The special characteristics of the year were the mild weather the first three months, the cold May and June; the heat wave in July, when the day temperature on the 13th reached 91 degrees. Two sharp thunderstorms occurred in August, accompanied by heavy rain, the precipitation on the 24th being over an inch. The temperature of October was above the average, but it was the wettest month of the year, the fall amounting to 97 mm. (3.9ins), being 23 mm. in excess of the normal. November was a cold month with temperature 4 degrees below the average, but this was somewhat compensated for by the bright sunshine, the record of 100 hours being unusually larger, and the low rainfall. December was also a cold month on the whole, the deficiency of heat being 1.6 degrees below the usual amount.

The direction of the wind is always an important matter in studying climatic conditions, and it is interesting to observe the small number of times it came from the East. Taking the 9 a.m. readings, there were only 16 days in the year when it blew from this quarter, and of this number seven were in March. The South-Westerly winds again predominated, and their total reached 89, the next highest being the Westerly, which amounted to 66. The North-Westerly came next, their number being 58. The following gives the various totals for the year:—

N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calms.
23	24	16	32	48	89	66	58	9

The Rainfall varied considerably in quantity during the twelve months, there being an excess in five months and a deficiency in the others. The summer months were fine, and the rainfall during the day in June and July was exceptionally small; in fact, during the latter month there was not any to speak of until the 25th. The first half of August was dry, and the large total for the month was due to the two heavy thunderstorms which accounted for 39.6 m. (1½ins.) of the total of 64.8 m. September, too, was fine, with a small precipitation during the day, being less than a quarter of the total. The fall for the year was 513 mm. (20.20ins.)—a little less than last year and nearly 2½ inches below the average.

The Sunshine Recorder has been in use since January, 1891, and for some years there has been discussion as to the amount of sunshine recorded compared with neighbouring towns. In May another Recorder lent by the Air Ministry was set up near the old one, so that the records of the two instruments might be compared. The results obtained have shown that the glass sphere of the old Recorder has considerably deteriorated, thereby causing a serious loss in the amount of sunshine registered throughout the year. The total of 1,725 hours given in the table at the end of this report is rather more than the official figure of 1,691 hours, the difference in the figures being that I have included the record of the new Recorder for seven months, whereas the official return is for six months. The difference in the records of the two instruments for the last half-year was 125 hours.

The Station was inspected on 29th May by Mr. A. N. N. Goldie.

In conclusion, thanks are due to Messrs. Cleveland in giving facilities for the two Sunshine Recorders to be placed on the roof of St. George's Hotel, thus enabling the comparisons of sunshine to be made.

C. J. PEMBLE, *Meteorological Observer.*

Meteorological Observations—1923.

MONTH.	BARO-METER	THERMOMETERS.				EARTH.				RAINFALL.				SUNSHINE.				FROSTS.									
		Dry Bulb.		Wet Bulb.		Max.		Min.		Av'ge.		Diff. from Av'ge.		Fall M.M.		Days. With Not.		Max. fall.		Date.		Days. With Not.		Hours.			
		Relative humidity		Temperature		%		°F.		1 ft.		4 ft.		M.M.		Days. With Not.		M.M.		+ 6		19th.		56·7		21		10
JAN.	30·05	41·7	40·3	88	45·7	38·9	42·4	+ 3·2	37·0	41·3	44·3	36·4	14	17	6·7	6·7	19th.	56·7	21	10	2						
FEB.	29·42	43·4	41·8	88	48·0	40·2	44·1	+ 4·0	38·0	43·3	44·9	58·7	17	11	+ 24	10·0	11th.	56·7	17	11	2						
MAR.	29·92	45·7	43·7	85	49·7	41·5	45·6	+ 3·0	39·0	44·9	45·2	24·3	14	17	- 16	5·6	23rd.	107·7	25	6	—						
APRIL	29·76	48·2	45·0	78	51·9	42·9	47·4	+ 0·5	40·0	49·6	49·3	26·4	10	20	- 8	16·1	25th.	150·7	25	5	—						
MAY	29·82	52·2	48·7	77	57·5	45·9	51·7	- 0·9	43·0	53·9	52·7	55·8	15	16	+ 16	29·0	28th.	137·9	27	4	—						
JUNE	30·04	55·3	52·1	80	59·4	49·8	54·6	- 3·5	48·0	57·5	54·4	14·3	8	22	- 31	4·0	19th.	176·1	25	5	—						
JULY	29·95	65·7	61·1	75	71·6	58·7	65·1	+ 3·0	57·0	70·1	63·9	11·1	5	23	- 39	4·2	25th.	284·0	30	1	—						
AUG.	29·90	63·4	58·6	73	69·4	56·4	62·9	+ 0·8	54·0	66·7	65·7	64·8	10	21	+ 16	27·3	24th.	271·8	29	2	—						
SEPT.	29·92	58·7	54·6	75	65·3	51·2	58·3	- 0·5	49·0	59·9	61·4	32·4	10	20	- 18	13·6	20th.	232·0	30	0	—						
OCT.	29·64	53·8	51·2	82	58·0	48·0	53·1	+ 1·3	46·0	53·3	51·3	9·6·9	22	9	+ 23	1·5·2	23rd.	105·5	26	5	—						
NOV.	29·65	41·7	40·1	87	45·7	37·3	41·5	- 4·0	35·0	44·3	50·7	4·5·6	10	20	- 15	8·0	22nd.	100·2	23	7	6						
DEC.	29·82	39·8	38·6	90	43·2	35·7	39·5	- 1·6	34·0	40·1	44·7	46·1	19	12	- 12	9·4	25th.	46·0	18	13	8						
1923	29·82	50·8	48·0	81	51·9	45·5	50·5	+ 0·4	43·0	52·0	52·4	512·8	154	211	- 65	29·0	25th May	1725·3	293	69	18						
1922	29·865	50·3	47·5	82	54·5	45·1	49·9	- 0·2	42·2	51·4	52·4	520·2	114	251	- 57	14·3	26th Sept.	1562	289	76	31						

Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1923.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MRS. HATFEILD AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my tenth Annual Report on the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors of the Health Department.

Recent legislation and Orders made by the Ministry of Health have again extended the scope and work of the Department, which necessitated careful organization, so that each branch of the work received attention in accordance with its relative importance.

I trust this Report shows to the Council and citizens that progress in Sanitary effort and direction is being made and extended.

I have again to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support, also Dr. McCombe for his kind and generous help at all times, and the other members of the Staff for their loyal co-operation.

I am, Mrs. Hatfeild and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. RIDSDALE.

January, 1924.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

No. of Complaints received	...	...	...	189
No. of Inspections made	...	...	...	10836
No. of Re-inspections made	...	...	...	4573
No. of Notices and Letters sent with respect to matters requiring attention under the Public Health Acts, &c.	...	...	...	907
No. of Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	136

Description of work carried out:—

Houses, &c.

Unfit for habitation, improved	...	...	...	87
Walls made damp-proof	...	...	...	14
New floors laid or repaired	...	...	...	55
Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	78
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	4
Cleansed or limewashed	...	...	...	33
Bedding cleansed	...	...	...	12
Means of ventilation improved	...	...	...	38
Roofs, &c., repaired	...	...	...	94
Kitchen Stoves, Coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	55
Supplied with a sufficient supply of water	...	...	...	1
Water Spouts fixed or repaired	...	...	...	60
Down Spouts disconnected from drain	...	...	...	5
Yards cleansed	...	...	...	11
Yard Pavements repaired	...	...	...	12
Yards re-paved with cement concrete	...	...	...	41
ditto asphalt	...	...	...	7
Nuisances abated arising from keeping of swine and other animals	...	...	...	24
Accumulation of manure or refuse removed	...	...	...	60
Broken sash-cords repaired	...	...	...	84

Houses Let in Lodgings.

Rooms limewashed or cleansed	...	...	...	9
Improvements:—Bedding renewed, &c.	...	...	...	1
Sanitary defects remedied	...	...	...	3
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	4
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	1

Retail Bakehouses.

Notices served as to Closets	...	...	...	1
ditto Limewashed	...	...	...	3

Workshops.

Cleansed or Limewashed	...	...	...	10
Water Closets ditto	...	...	...	8
Other nuisances	...	...	...	3

Laundries.

Want of drainage of floors	1
----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

Sanitary Accommodation.

Unsuitable or defective	3
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

Restaurants.

Cleansed or Limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sanitary defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	1

Cowsheds.

Limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	56
Improved	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cows dirty	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	2

Dairies and Milk Shops.

Limewashed and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Proper Milk vessels provided	...	...	...	...	...	9
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	2

Ice Cream Premises.

Unsuitable	3
------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Offensive Trades.

Limewashed or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Discontinuance of unauthorised Rag and Bone Store	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bye-laws not complied with	...	...	...	...	...	6
Covered Pans fitted to Frying apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	1

Stables.

Limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Manure Pit provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
New floor laid	...	...	...	...	...	2

Schools.

Sanitary defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	15
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	4

Slaughter Houses.

Limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	56
Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Floors repaired or laid with cement concreto	...	...	...	...	...	1
Walls rendered with cement	...	...	...	...	...	1
Light and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	1
Receptacles provided	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bye-laws not complied with	...	...	...	...	...	5

Rats.

Notice to take steps to destroy rats	2
Premises made rat-proof	2

Drainage.

Cleansed or repaired	78
Re-constructed	53
New drains constructed	25
Disconnected from sewer	6
Ventilated	11
Inspection Chambers built	12
Drain-openings removed from inside buildings ...	1
Cesspits abolished	2
Cesspools abolished	1
Additional gullies fixed in yards	9
New sinks fixed	5
Waste pipes of Sinks trapped or renewed ...	20
Waste pipes unstopped	8
Bath and Lavatory waste pipes ventilated ...	3
Urinals limewashed or cleansed	6

Water Closets.

Limewashed and cleansed	24
Repaired	39
Re-constructed	5
Light and ventilation provided or improved ...	5
Additional provided	1
Wash-down W.C.'s provided in lieu of insanitary basins or apparatus	21
Provided with a sufficient supply of water ...	5
Soil pipes repaired or renewed	22
New Flush Pipes fixed	8
New Cisterns fixed	11
Cisterns repaired	30

Dustbins.

Dustbins provided	541
-----------------------------------	-----

Miscellaneous.

Not classified above	7
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Theatres, Cinemas, &c.

Condemned as dangerous	1
Accumulation of refuse removed	1
Request to provide thermometers	2

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

No. of Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	10
No. of Inspections	...	...	...	79
No. of Notices served <i>re</i> Sanitary Defects			...	8
No. of Rooms found dirty and cleansed			...	9

STABLES

(AND OTHER PREMISES WHERE ANIMALS ARE KEPT).

No. of Inspections of Stables, &c.	...	...	356
Accumulations of Manure removed by Notice	...		12
Animals kept in such a state as to be a nuisance			24
No. of Notices <i>re</i> other nuisances	...	...	6

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The total number of Offensive Trades carried on in the Borough is 10, and consist of:—

Fried Fish and Chip Potato Shops	...	...	8
Rag and Bone Dealers	...	...	2
No. of Inspections made	...	...	99
No. of Notices served <i>re</i> Nuisances	...	...	7
Discontinuance of unauthorised Rag and Bone Store	...	...	1
Bye-laws not complied with	...	...	6
No cover on Frying-pans	...	...	1

PRIVATE SMOKE TESTS.

No. of Private Smoke Tests carried out	...	11
--	-----	----

DISINFECTION AND AMBULANCE.

No. of Patients suffering from Infectious Diseases removed to the Haine Isolation Hospital	...	105
No. of Infected Houses disinfected	...	203
No. of Infected Rooms disinfected	...	284
No. of Houses disinfected after Consumption	...	51
No. of Rooms disinfected after Consumption	...	63

No. of Articles disinfected:—

40 Beds	451	Blankets
266 Mattresses	3	Coats
102 Sheets	15	Rugs
414 Pillows	22	Cushions
79 Bolsters	196	Miscellaneous

making a total of 1588.

MORTUARY.

No. of bodies placed in the Mortuary of persons who had died from accident or other causes	13
---	----

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

No. of Registered Slaughter-Houses	...	...	7
No. of Licensed Slaughter-Houses	...	...	7
No. of Slaughter-Houses closed or discontinued...			2
No. of Slaughter-Houses limewashed	...	...	56
No. of Receptacles provided	...	...	1
No. of Slaughter House inspections	...	...	648

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Total No. of Cowkeepers, Dairymen and Purveyors of Milk in the Borough	...	...	91
Total No. of Registered Cow-keepers in the Borough	...	...	12
Total No. of Registered Cow-keepers who live outside the Borough	...	...	4
Total No. of Inspections	...	...	352

STORAGE AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

No. of accumulations removed	...	...	...	48
No. of Dustbins provided	...	...	...	541

RAT EXTERMINATION.

No. of Inspections	...	...	...	...	155
No. of Notices served for failure to take steps to destroy	...	...	...	...	4

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following table shows the amount of unsound Food dealt with during the year:—

Unsound Meat.		DISEASE.	TOTAL WEIGHT IN LBS.
DESCRIPTION.			
1 Pig		Jaundice	113
Beef		Unsound	382
Ox Livers		"	137
Ox Tails		"	94
Kidneys		"	132
Corned Beef ..		"	6
Various Foods.			
Haddock		Unsound	263
Kippers		"	48
Prawns		"	176
Eggs (1,182)		"	148
Greengages		"	95
		Total Weight	1,594 lbs.

Total weight of food destroyed—14 cwts 0 qrs. 16 lbs.

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

No. of Ice Cream makers	...	...	...	83
No. of Inspections	...	...	...	159
No. of Premises discontinued owing to unsuitability	...	...	...	3

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

During the year 120 samples of various Foods and Drugs were obtained and submitted to your Public Analyst, Mr. E. M. Hawkins, at Canterbury.

Description and number of samples:—

Nature of Sample.	Adulterated.	Genuine.	Informal.	Formal.	Total.
Butter	—	13	13	—	13
Camphorated Oil ...	—	1	1	—	1
Castor Oil	—	1	1	—	1
Cheese	—	2	2	—	2
Cocoa	—	3	3	—	3
Coffee	—	3	3	—	3
Cream	1	5	6	—	6
Custard Powder ...	—	1	1	—	1
Dripping	—	1	1	—	1
Flour	—	3	3	—	3
Flour (Self-Raising)	—	1	1	—	1
Ground Ginger ...	—	1	1	—	1
Honey	—	1	1	—	1
Jam	1	3	4	—	4
Jelly	—	1	1	—	1
Lard	—	7	7	—	7
Margarine	—	3	3	—	3
Marmalade ...	—	1	1	—	1
Milk	3	43	—	46	46
Milk (Skimmed) ...	1	2	—	3	3
Milk (Condensed) ...	—	1	1	—	1
Milk (Powder) ...	—	2	2	—	2
Mince Meat	—	1	1	—	1
Mustard	—	1	1	—	1
Oatmeal	—	2	2	—	2
Olive Oil	—	1	1	—	1
Pepper	—	1	1	—	1
Rice	—	3	3	—	3
Shrimp Paste ...	—	1	1	—	1
Sugar	—	1	1	—	1
Tapioca	—	1	1	—	1
Tea	—	1	1	—	1
Treacle	—	1	1	—	1
Whisky	1	—	1	—	1
Totals ...	7	113	71	49	120

It will be seen from the above statement that 113 samples were reported to be genuine, and 7 adulterated, which gives a percentage of 5.8 of adulteration.

The following table gives the percentages of adulteration in all the samples obtained during the last 15 years:—

Years.	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Total No. of Samples	101	100	101	102	100	120	100	110	107	74	106	120	120	120	120
Number adulterated	10	4	3	9	4	14	13	24	15	3	5	11	7	6	7
Percentage adulterated	9.9	4	2.9	8.8	4	11.6	13	21.8	14	4	4.7	9.2	5.8	5	5.8

The composition of the samples of Milk are given in the following table:—

No. of Sample.	Percentage Results.		Purchased during month of
	Milk Fat.	Non-Fatty Solids.	
7	3·20	9·20	JANUARY. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 9·06
8	3·48	8·74	
9	3·85	9·14	
10	1·96	9·15	
18	3·65	9·17	FEBRUARY. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 8·99
19	3·70	8·81	
20	2·71	9·00	
27	3·00	8·97	
28	3·28	9·14	MARCH. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 9·03
29	3·90	8·89	
30	4·46	9·14	
37	2·90	8·75	APRIL. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 8·88
38	8·30	8·92	
39	3·02	8·85	
40	3·00	9·02	
47	4·45	9·0	MAY. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 8·87
48	4·06	8·4	
49	3·90	8·9	
50	3·02	9·08	
57	5·20	8·84	JUNE. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 8·94
58	3·17	9·01	
59	3·10	8·92	
60	3·05	9·01	
67	4·45	8·53	JULY. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 8·66
68	3·50	8·87	
69	3·42	8·44	
70	3·45	8·82	
77	3·50	8·78	AUGUST. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 8·75
78	3·32	8·83	
79	3·35	8·61	
80	3·68	8·80	
87	3·98	8·79	SEPTEMBER. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 8·98
88	3·52	8·96	
89	3·35	8·85	
90	4·02	9·31	
97	3·10	8·54	OCTOBER. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 8·65
98	2·95	8·84	
99	3·90	8·58	
101	2·76	9·26	
102	3·48	8·90	NOVEMBER. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 8·88
103	3·51	8·61	
104	4·25	8·74	
111	3·32	9·02	DECEMBER. Milk Fat Non-Fatty Solids Average 8·91
112	3·40	8·95	
113	4·10	8·98	
114	3·30	8·68	
Yearly Average	3·50	8·89	

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION REGARDING SAMPLES
NOT REPORTED TO BE GENUINE.

No. of Sample.	Nature of Sample.	Results of Analysis.	Remarks.
10.	Milk.	Deficient in Fat 34%	Vendor Prosecuted.
17.	Skimmed Milk.	Extraneous Water 3·4%	Letter of Warning sent by Town Clerk.
20.	Milk.	Deficient in Fat 9·6%.	Verbal Warning.
33.	Whisky.	Extraneous Water 15%	Notice Exhibited in Bar
61.	Cream.	Boric Acid 0·06 % in excess of amount declared.	Letter of Warning sent by Town Clerk.
83.	Black Currant Jam.	Contained only 3·4% of water soluble extract.	Verbal Warning.
101.	Milk.	Deficient in Fat 8%.	Letter of Warning sent by Town Clerk.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

In only one instance were legal proceedings taken during the year, when the Vendor of an adulterated Milk sample was prosecuted and fined £10. In the absence of the Town Clerk, Mr. E. Brooke, the prosecution was undertaken by Mr. S. Shea.